



# Draft:*The Paradise* (2026 film)

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***The Paradise*** is an upcoming Indian Telugu-language action thriller film written and directed by Srikanth Odela and produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Cinemas. The film stars Nani and Sonali Kulkarni. The film was music composed by Anirudh Ravichander, cinematography by G. K. Vishnu and editing by Naveen Nooli.<sup>[1]</sup> Set in 1980's Secunderabad, it follows a marginalized tribe fighting for citizenship and recognition, led by a rebellious leader.<sup>[2]</sup>

*The Paradise* is scheduled to be theatrically release on 26 March 2026.

## Plot

Set in 1980s Secunderabad, *The Paradise* depicts the struggles of a marginalized tribe stripped of their rights, likened to "crows" in a society that celebrates "parrots and pigeons." The story centers on a rebellious leader, described as a "bastard" by society, who unites the oppressed community in a fight for citizenship and

### *The Paradise*

<b>Directed by</b>	<u>Srikanth Odela</u>
<b>Screenplay by</b>	<u>Srikanth Odela</u> <div>Vinay Sagar Jonnala</div> <div>Madhava Murthy Bojanapu</div> <div>Arjuna Paturi</div> <div>Vamsi Krishna Pinnika</div> <div>Vasanth Masadi</div> <div>Bala Ganesh K.</div>
<b>Dialogues by</b>	<u>Thota Srinivas</u>
<b>Story by</b>	<u>Srikanth Odela</u>
<b>Produced by</b>	<u>Sudhakar Cherukuri</u>
<b>Starring</b>	<u>Nani</u> <div><u>Sonali Kulkarni</u></div>
<b>Cinematography</b>	<u>G. K. Vishnu</u>
<b>Edited by</b>	<u>Naveen Nooli</u>
<b>Music by</b>	<u>Anirudh Ravichander</u>
<b>Production company</b>	<u>Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Cinemas</u>
<b>Release date</b>	March 26, 2026

recognition against systemic oppression.<sup>[3]</sup> The narrative explores themes of societal prejudice, bureaucracy, and exploitation, presented in an unfiltered, raw manner.<sup>[4]</sup>

Country	India
Language	Telugu
Budget	₹150 crores (estimated)

## Cast

- Nani as the rebellious leader
- Sonali Kulkarni

## Production

### Development

After the success for *Dasara* (2023), Srikanth Odela announced his next project, which marked his second directorial with Nani in the lead role on 31 March 2024, under the tentative titled as *#Nani33* or *#NaniOdela2*, as it is Nani's 33th film, and Srikanth Odela marks his second collaboration with Nani after *Dasara*.<sup>[5][6]</sup> The film's was officially title as *The Paradise* revealed by Nani on social media on 6 November 2024.<sup>[7][8]</sup> The film is produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Cinemas, which also funded *Dasara*, with a reported budget of approximately ₹150 crore.<sup>[9]</sup> The screenplay was co-written by a team including Odela, Vinay Sagar Jonnala, and others, aiming for a raw and authentic narrative.<sup>[10]</sup>

### Filming

The film was principal photography with puja ceremony commenced on 13 October 2024,<sup>[6]</sup> ongoing as of March 2025.<sup>[11]</sup> The film's teaser trailer, titled "Raw Statement," was shot separately at a cost of ₹1 crore, featuring exclusive visuals not included in the final film.<sup>[12]</sup>

## Music

The film's score and soundtrack are composed by Anirudh Ravichander, marking his third collaboration with Nani after *Jersey* and *Nani's Gang Leader* (both 2019).<sup>[13]</sup> The audio rights of the film were acquired by Saregama Telugu for ₹18 crores.<sup>[14]</sup>

## Marketing

The first glimpse, titled "Raw Statement," was unveiled on 3 March 2025 at AMB Cinemas in Hyderabad, accompanied by a disclaimer for its raw language and themes.<sup>[15]</sup> The teaser showcased Nani's transformed appearance, twin braids, a muscular physique, and a tattoo reading "La\*\*Koduku" (bastard) generating significant online buzz.<sup>[16]</sup> A poster released on 26 March 2025, marking the one-

year countdown to the release, depicted Nani in an intense, gun-wielding avatar.<sup>[17]</sup> The film's marketing emphasized its global appeal, with Nani dubbing his own lines for the Spanish version, a first for a Telugu actor.<sup>[18]</sup>

## Release

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*The Paradise* is scheduled to be theatrically release on 26 March 2026 in original Telugu alongside Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Bengali, English, and Spanish language.<sup>[19][20]</sup> Reports suggest the film may be split into two parts due to its expansive narrative and budget, with the first part confirmed for the 2026 release date.<sup>[21]</sup> Netflix acquired the post-theatrical streaming rights for ₹65 crore.<sup>[22]</sup>

## Reception

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### Pre-release

The teaser received positive feedback. Fans praised Nani's transformation and the film's cinematic visuals, comparing its cinematography to Hollywood blockbusters.<sup>[23]</sup> However, the use of explicit language, particularly the term "Lanja Koduku," sparked controversy, with some criticizing it as inappropriate for family audiences.<sup>[24]</sup> Others defended the language as reflective of Telangana's cultural context.<sup>[25]</sup> Director Odela described the film as "unapologetically honest," aiming for global resonance.<sup>[26]</sup>

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## External links

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- *The Paradise* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt31969655/>) at IMDb

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